

# DamascusCitizens

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## Crucial Community Water Tests Now Taking Place

There is a very alarming development regarding the gas-drilling issue within the Upper Delaware Watershed Region. Permits have been issued, and a gas-drilling well site has been cleared. Roads and a large pad have been constructed, and deep crushed stone has been laid down at a location in Torrey, Wayne County, PA. Drilling may soon begin - you must act now.

Public records disclose this work is being done - without the oversight of the DRBC [Delaware River Basin Commission], and the PA-DEP has issued permits for this "test well" with a minimum of information required from the drilling company.

In light of the recent water contamination in Dimock, PA, a carefully coordinated water testing program is now underway in our region. This important project will be an ongoing program to monitor this mostly unregulated drilling activity. Please be advised that drilling companies operate with exemptions to all major federal environmental protections. As a result, your present water supply is endangered. If you wish to protect your private source of pure water - you must act promptly to establish a baseline reading now, before the drilling begins.

The testing must be conducted by a PA-certified and reliable laboratory that maintains a "chain of custody" - so that the results are admissible in court if legal action becomes necessary. All test results are highly confidential. Cost packages and multi-home discounts are being arranged.

Contact Pocono Environmental Laboratories, 1 Old Mill Road, Tannersville, PA 18372, (570) 629-8900, <http://www.PoconoLabs.com>, [email: [merlic@poconolabs.com](mailto:merlic@poconolabs.com)]



POCONO ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORIES, LLC  
EXPERT WATER TESTING SERVICES

## DCS' RECOMMENDED WATER TESTS CHART as of June 2009

The prices below are current from Pocono Environmental Laboratories, 1 Old Mill Rd, Tannersville, PA 18372. 570-629-8900. PADEP Cert #: 45-574. Test prices do not include collection charges.

Please be aware that test findings are admissible in court only when the water samples for testing are obtained by laboratory personnel. There is a fee for laboratory personnel to come and collect water samples. The costs depends upon the distance that must be traveled. Several households may elect to have their water samples collected on the same day, thereby spreading the cost among them.

	TEST CATEGORIES AND NAMES	TEST #	FEE	IMPORTANCE	COMMENT
1	TESTS FOR ACID				
2	pH liquid	EPA 150.1	5.00	E	M
3	pH solid	SW 3045B	5.00	E	M
4	Alkalinity total	EPA 310.1	15.00	E	
5	Acidity	EPA 335.1	10.00	E	
6	TESTS FOR BRINE				
7	Total dissolved solids	EPA 150.1	15.00	E	
8	Barium	EPA 208.1	15.00	E	
9	Sulfate	EPA 375.4	25.00	E	
10	Chloride	EPA 325.3	15.00	E	
11	Conductivity	EPA 120.1	10.00	E	M
12	TESTS FOR BULK ORGANIC CHEMICALS USED TO THICKEN DRILLING MUD				
13	Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	EPA 410.4	25.00	E	M
14	Total suspended solids	EPA 160.2	15.00	E	
15	Turbidity	EPA 180.1	10.00	E	
16	TEST FOR OIL AND GREASE				
17	Oil and grease - total liquid	EPA 413.1	40.00	E	

18	TESTS FOR FRACKING FLUID ADDITIVES				
19	Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS)	EPA 425.1	40.00	E	surfactants /detergents
20	Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	xxxxxxxx	xxxx	E	See line 13 above
21	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Definition: matter introduced and matter released	# not assigned	125.00	O BUT STRONGLY RECOMMENDED	BETX: 21 regulated compounds highly active.
22	Kjeldahl, Total TKN	EPA 351.3	30.00	E	
23	TESTS FOR UNDERGROUND CHEMICALS RELEASED BY DRILLING AND HYDRAULIC FRACTURING				
24	Total hardness	EPA 130.2	15.00	E	M Measures calcium and magnesium
25	Gross alpha and beta radioactive particles (NORMs)	# not assigned	83.00	O BUT STRONGLY RECOMMENDED	NORM means Normally Occurring Radioactive Materials
26	Methane and ethane	field meter used	50.00	E	M, F
27	Chloride	xxxxxxxx	xxxx	E	See line 10 above
28	Conductivity	xxxxxxxx	xxxx	E	See line 11 above
29	Elements include the following list:				
30	Aluminum	EPA 202.1	15.00	E	
31	Arsenic	EPA 206.2	20.00	E	
32	Barium	xxxxxxxx	xxxx	E	See line 8 above
33	Beryllium	SW 7030	15.00	O	
34	Cadmium	EPA 213.1	15.00	O	
35	Calcium	EPA 215.1	15.00	O	Included in Hardness which is a monitoring test.

36	Chromium	EPA 218.1	15.00	O	
37	Cobalt	SW 7750	15.00	O	
38	Copper	EPA 220.1	15.00	O	
39	Iron	EPA 235.1	15.00	E	
40	Lead	EPA 239.2	20.00	E	
41	Lithium	# not assigned	25.00	O	
42	Magnesium	EPA 242.1	15.00	E	
43	Manganese	EPA 243.1	15.00	E	
44	Mercury	EPA 245.1	25.00	O	
45	Nickel	EPA 249.1	15.00	O	
46	Potassium	EPA 258.1	15.00	E	
47	Silver	EPA 272.1	15.00	O	
48	Sodium	EPA 273.1	15.00	E	
49	Strontium	# not assigned	15.00	E	
50	Zinc	EPA 289.1	15.00	O	
51	TESTS FOR CONTAMINATION DUE TO INADEQUATE AQUIFER PROTECTION WHILE DRILLING				
52	Total coliform and E. coli bacteria	SM 9223B	30.00	E	M
53	Total suspended solids	xxxxxxxx	xxxx	E	See line 14 above
54	Turbidity	xxxxxxxx	xxxx	E	See line 15 above

## EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Each test has been assigned a value. The importance of a test for establishing a base line profile before drilling and hydraulic fracturing has begun is expressed as essential (E) or optional (O).

E = Recommended tests essential for a broad spectrum baseline.

O = Optional tests. These tests are important but may be omitted if budget is an issue.

M = Monitoring test. After a complete baseline is established, monitoring tests can be used to check for evidence of possible contamination.

The landowner can collect samples himself. An increase over baseline on any monitoring test is a "red flag" for possible contamination. Then full professional testing should be conducted.

M, F = Monitoring tests the landowner himself can perform in the field

#### SOURCES FOR DCS' WATER TESTS CHART

This list of recommended tests is based on their appearance on all or any of the following as determined by DCS with the help from experts:

- Test results from waste water at Dimmock after fracturing began and the aquifer was contaminated
- The list ordered by the DEP to be tested in the Waste Water Treatment Plants along the Monongahela River in 2008 when contamination of the river from gas drilling waste water became obvious
- Recommendations for water testing and monitoring from Pocono Environmental Laboratories, LLC, 1 Old Mill Rd, Tannersville, PA 18372. 570-629-8900 [www.poconolabs.com](http://www.poconolabs.com)
- Penn State recommended water test items, page 7. <http://resources.cas.psu.edu/WaterResources/pdfs/gasdrilling.pdf>
- Community Science Institute, a NY state not-for-profit testing laboratory, which advises anyone in an area where there's drilling to test all the groundwater, springs, ponds and streams on their property. <http://www.communityscience.org/>

THIS CHART IS SUBJECT TO REVISION WITHOUT NOTICE

#### EXAMPLE of a WATER TEST SET

The water test choices of householders in one neighborhood included the following set of tests from DCS' Recommended Water Tests Chart of 6/2009, using Pocono Environmental Laboratories, LLC as the testing company

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LINE	TEST NAME	TEST #	FEE
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19	Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS)	EPA 425.1	40.00
21	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	# not assigned	125.00
22	Kjeldahl, Total TKN	EPA 351.3	30.00
24	Total hardness	EPA 130.2	15.00
25	Gross alpha and beta radioactive particles (NORMs)	# not assigned	89.00
26	Methane and ethane	Field meter used	50.00
30	Aluminum	EPA 202.1	15.00
39	Iron	EPA 235.1	15.00
40	Lead	EPA 239.2	20.00
43	Manganese	EPA 243.1	15.00
48	Sodium	EPA 273.1	15.00
49	Strontium	# not assigned	15.00
52	Total coliform and E. coli bacteria	SM 9223B	30.00

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#### POCONO ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORIES, LLC EXPERT WATER TESTING SERVICES

Pocono Environmental Laboratories is an environmental testing facility that provides a full line of test methods and packages specifically designed to assist the general public and protect our environment. Their laboratory is extensive and deep ... in that they generally have more than one EPA approved method developed to run any one single testing analysis.  
[Special discounts will be arranged for multiple households and community baseline testing service.]

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